

REMARKS

By this amendment, claim 9 has been cancelled. Thus, claims 2-8 and 10-12 are now active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In item 4 on page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner kindly indicated that claims [2]-8 and 10-12 are allowed.

Accordingly, in order to expedite allowance of this application, rejected claim 9 has now been cancelled, thereby leaving only the allowed claims 2-8 and 10-12.

As such, it is submitted that the application is now clearly in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Eiji OKADA et al.

/Charles R Watts/

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Charles R. Watts
Registration No. 33,142
Attorney for Applicants

CRW/asd
Washington, D.C. 20005-1503
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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